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literature that are suitable for the purposes mentioned above. From the point of view of language, it is well written, but there again we find many splendid texts already available to the American student. And finally as a bit of documentation on France and the war, "eh bien, il y a mieux." The reader is not at all impressed with the "marraine" and her twenty-two "filleuls," with her various other war activities and economies, nor with the maid and her god-son, for all those traits of generosity and self-sacrifice have been presented to us in a much more masterly way. After all the student has some literary taste. We should try to give them the best, especially when it concerns a foreign country, and even more so when it concerns France; and the best is fortunately at our disposal.

The play is followed by Notes, Conversation Exercises, Composition Exercises and a vocabulary.

HÉLÈNE HARVITT.

Columbia University.

Manual of Military German, by FREDERICK W. C. LIEDER and RAY W. PETTENGILL, Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1918. vii+364 pp.

The sudden ending of the world war brought to a halt also the instruction in "military German" that formed part of the S. A. T. C. curriculum. The book under review is hence likely to prove still-born, and the somewhat meretricious appeal of the circular letter sent out by the Harvard University Press¹ cannot materially alter this outstanding fact. However, since the Manual represents the first serious attempt to collect and present to the American public the German military vocabulary and phraseology, a more than passing review seems called for.

The contents are: 1. Outline of German Grammar. 2. Word Lists. 3. Tables. 4. Reading Selections. 5. Abbreviations. 6. Vocabulary. Of these the outline of grammar is far and away the weakest. One gains the impression that it is the result of a perfunctory effort to meet a requirement of the War Department's Committee on Education and Special Training. Whether or not the user of the book has had preliminary training in German, the outlines already accessible (Gould, Greenfield, Haertel and Gast) will serve his purpose vastly better than what is offered here within the compass of twenty-six pages, three of which treat the alphabet, while five are taken up with a list of strong verbs. Almost the only paragraph to which the above would not apply is the statement on page 12 on the use of *du*, *ihr*, and *Sie* in the

¹ "Which is more likely to arouse the interest of your students, 'Hermann und Dorothea' or an account of life in the trenches? Will they learn the German equivalents for 'bread,' 'dish,' and 'mother-in-law' as eagerly as those for 'rifle,' 'knapsack,' and 'listening post'?" (Under date of September 17, 1919.)

army. The pursuit of military brevity has, besides, led to obscurity of statement and, at times, to ungrammatical English.

The word lists are given under thirty-one rubrics, beginning with "Time" and closing with "Important Adjectives." The groups treated are by no means exclusively of a military character: they touch to a considerable extent upon the technical vocabulary of science as well. In the main, these lists are excellent. Access to them would have materially lightened the work of many an instructor of "military German" in the autumn of 1918. If any general criticism is in place, it is that accent should have been indicated more freely,² an observation that applies with equal force to the vocabulary at the end of the volume.

Of the Tables (pp. 75-91), Nos. 5, 6 and, to a lesser extent, 7, may lay claim to more than ordinary interest, presenting as they do a comparison between German, American, British, and French army and navy ranks. It is just such technical matters that are of the greatest interest to the military man and prove most perplexing to the non-military teacher. Taken in conjunction with the illuminating "General Explanations" on page 81, these tables present information not so readily accessible elsewhere and for purposes of reference possess a value that will not be seriously affected by the return of peace and a passing away of a military Germany.

The Reading Selections are grouped under the heads: I. Infantry; II. Trench Warfare; III. Artillery; IV. Fortified Positions; V. Aviation; VI. Hospital and Health; VII. Railroad; VIII. Automobile; IX. and X. Miscellaneous; XI. Submarine; XII. Naval Engagements; XIII. Status of Merchant Vessels in War; XIV. Selections in Gothic³ Type; XV. Specimens of German Script. There are upward of a hundred selections in all, differing in length from a few lines to four or five pages. Almost without exception this material is well chosen. There are included several apparently genuine letters from the German front written to the folks at home. In some instances one misses an indication of the source or date of an extract. Thus it would have been of interest to know the date of the observations on alimentation and health (p. 178). In at least one case this obscuration of source seems to the reviewer to go clearly beyond the legitimate, in the expropriation, without credit, of a section on "Das Klima der Rhein-

² Charpie, p. 38; Intendantur, p. 39; Manschette, p. 42; Visier, p. 47; Kartusche, p. 49; Abonnent, p. 55; Beton, p. 62. *Pedler* (p. 67) is not *Trödler* but *Hausierer*.

³ There are seven pages in Gothic type as over against 148 pages in Roman type, not a very equitable distribution in view of the statement in the Preface that "Roman and Gothic type have both been used." Personally, the reviewer would be glad to see the use of the Gothic type (and script) in German abandoned but the fact remains that Gothic is still the norm and the Latin type the exception, a fact that the authors should have reckoned with.

provinz" from Steinecke's "Landeskunde der Rheinprovinz" (Sammlung Göschen). The fugitive character of the source could here at least not be urged in excuse. Occasionally an extract represents a translation from an English original, not always without leaving traces of the foreign origin.⁴

In the list of abbreviations, Stv., occurring on page 95, has been overlooked. The Vocabulary seems to be fairly complete so far as the reading selections are concerned. It should, however, have included such technical expressions as those found in Table 16. The identification of *Hafergrütze* with "Quaker Oats" smacks of a jest. *Kabel* is entered as masculine, *Telegraphenkabel* as neuter.

A little more care might have been bestowed upon the proof-reading (pp. 40, 46, 50, 53, 62, 86, 170, 189, 200, 228), although some of the errors impress one as due to negligence in the printing office.

The general make-up of the volume is distinctly attractive.

B. J. Vos.

Indiana University.

Studies in Spanish-American Literature. ISAAC GOLDBERG, Ph.D. With an introduction by PROFESSOR J. D. M. FORD. 377 pp. Brentano's, 1920.

It is only within the last few years that we North Americans have begun to concern ourselves with Spanish-American letters. Mr. Coester's *Literary History of Spanish-America* blazed the trail; Professor Ford has devoted a chapter to *Spanish-American Literature* in his *Main Currents of Spanish Literature* and now comes Mr. Goldberg with his *Studies in Spanish-American Literature*. Mr. Coester's pioneer work in surveying the literatures of all the Spanish-American countries is of course but an introduction to the field. Mr. Ford's sketch is meant to be merely a bird's-eye view. But Mr. Goldberg's essays are the first exhaustive studies of Spanish-American men of letters to be published in this country.

We prattle so much about our interest in Spanish-America that one might expect a greater output than this. But alas! Our primary concern as a nation is not Spanish-American culture and civilization, it is Spanish-American dollars. One of the reasons for the feeling of hostility and suspicion on the part of our Spanish speaking neighbors is the fact that we look upon them with a sort of disdainful superiority, because from our newspapers we read only about their political revolutions and their commercial statistics. We are interested in them only as

⁴ As e.g., *verpassen*, p. 167, l. 14, and the position of *seillich liegend* on the same page, l. 36. Selection 77 seems to the reviewer to suffer particularly from this defect.